

## My Education

### Governor / Stakeholder Training & Seed Funding Delivery

*In January 2016, NIACE and the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion  
merged to form the Learning and Work Institute*

**Learning and Work Institute**

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal | Chief Executive: Stephen Evans  
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## Appendix 5

### Monkton Priory School: Case Study

**The Launch adult learning project** was developed by the Headteacher of Monkton Priory Community Primary School, Shelley Morris in September 2012, it evolved from the previous “Springboard” project based in the school and delivered by the local authority.

A Launch Learning Coordinator was appointed in September 2012; the mission statement;

‘Launch learning provides adult education in the community for the community. Accredited and non-accredited courses are available and designed to remove barriers so that people in the community gain the confidence and skills to find employment.’

#### **Why:**

- Around 56% of children have been entitled to free school meals
- 40% of children have additional learning needs
- There are two additional learning needs units
- 30% of children are Gypsy/Traveller
- Gypsy Traveller unit for secondary pupils and 20 children are in the Priory Project

Research shows the impact of deprivation on children include: underachievement, lack of self-esteem and lack of aspiration. Despite various interventions in school, some children failed to reach their full potential. The school took the decision that more could be done to reach out to parents and the wider community to develop their skills and aspirations.

Launch consulted parents and the community to find out what courses they wanted and reviewed local employers and their requirements. One of the largest employers locally is Valero Oil Refinery who require a Site Safety Card from all job applicants (CCNSG card), costing around £160. This requirement can make a big impact if claiming benefits, and this is one of the first courses Launch offered.

Launch also wanted to offer progression to students, and feedback reflected that this was also something the community wanted. Positive partnership has been central to the development of the project and a hugely successful partnership with the University of Wales Trinity St David (UWTSD) has emerged. Since 2012 students can study for a Foundation degree in Inclusive Education delivered through outreach at Monkton School. This was so successful that students can now study for an additional year and gain a BA Degree in Inclusive Education.

One of the main barriers to learning for our students was child care. Launch now offer a free crèche with every course. This highlighted a shortage of quality crèche workers available. Launch applied to become a learning centre with Open Awards which enabled them to write and deliver accredited courses, tailor made for the community's needs. There were no crèche worker courses available in the UK apart from one provider in Scotland. The Launch Adult Learning co-ordinator gained the qualifications required to become a tutor and wrote an accredited crèche worker course, which included the Local Authorities safeguarding qualification. The Headteacher has also qualified to be the Internal Verifier for Open Awards, ensuring quality of courses.

## **Impact**

Evidence shows that over 70% of participants found employment as a direct result of this course, as the card is recognised nationally and lasts for 3 years, participants can also apply for jobs anywhere in the UK. Due to the impact on employment, Launch try to offer one of these courses as a minimum every term.

Launch now have 4-year groups running in the evenings and over 200 students studying in the evenings for a Foundation Degree and over 74 students gaining a full BA degree since 2012.

7 Learning Support Assistants working in the school are now graduates and this has made a massive impact up skilling the workforce of the school. The Degree programme has been so successful Launch were approached at the end of 2016 by UWTSD who want to offer another BA Degree programme in Youth and Community Work at Monkton School

Launch have now delivered 5 Crèche Worker courses since September 2016 and have been able to build a pool of qualified crèche workers. This has led directly to 5 participants gaining crèche work employment including employment with other partner organisations.

One of the participants is an adult Gypsy/Traveller man who could not write his name or read at all. After 121 sessions since September he announced last week that he has been reading his 3 and 7 year old children bedtime stories. His employer is also considering promotion for him.

Data from the school is illustrating how Launch has positively impacted both attendance and attainment and closed the gap between children with Free School Meals and those without.



## Attendance

2010/2011	2012/2013	2014/2015	2016/2017
91.9%	91.9%	95.4%	94.2%

	2013	2016
Actual	91.9%	95.2%
Non FSM	92.4%	95.3%
FSM	89.6%	95.1%



The pupil deprivation grant was introduced to provide financial support to help tackle the effects of poverty on attainment.

	2010		2017	
	FSM	N FSM	FSM	N FSM
CSI	22.2%	66.7%	73%	69%
English	22.2%	80%	73%	69%
Maths	22.2%	73.3%	73%	69%
Science	44.4%	86.7%	73%	69%



HMI reported on the School's activities in 2016:

**Learning environment: Excellent**

Monkton Priory is an extremely inclusive, caring and welcoming environment for pupils, staff, parents and the wider community. The school is a beacon for lifelong learning in the community. For example, the partnership work that has enabled parents, staff and other members of the community to develop new skills and qualifications at the school is a significant strength. Through this work, the school has been innovative in establishing outstanding links with the Gypsy and Traveller community. The wide range of courses, including basic skills courses for parents, GCSE and a degree course offered at the school has brought the community into the school. This has ensured a vibrant learning environment that provides high aspirations for all and has provided parents and carers with the skills to help their children.

A significant strength of the school is the partnership with parents and the wider community. The school has established its provision for developing adult education and lifelong learning superbly over a number of years. The Launch project is an innovative approach to providing adult education for parents, staff and the wider community. Through the project, the school offers an exceptional range of courses from developing basic skills to a foundation degree offered in partnership with the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. As a result, many parents and staff have gained qualifications. This work is having a very positive effect on pupils, for example improving their attitudes to learning and attendance. The school has shared its work on adult education and community cohesion successfully locally and nationally.

(Estyn, April 2016)

Learner: Lisa Wilson

*"I am a lone parent to eight children aged between 4 years and 24 years. I am also a Grandmother to three children. All my children have been or still are at Monkton CP School. Two years ago, I was contacted by the adult learning coordinator for Launch and the Head Teacher both at Monkton School, they advised me to start a foundation degree at the school that was being provided by University of Wales Trinity Saint David. I could not even turn on a computer but Kellie booked me on a First Steps course (paid for by Monkton CP School). The computer course is provided at the school by Learning Pembrokeshire. I took the follow up course as well to improve my IT skills. I have not studied since leaving school but felt it was time that I did something for myself and to be a positive role model to my children and grandchildren. My confidence was quite low but I was persuaded by Kellie and Shelley (Head teacher). Launch also provided a crèche so there were no excuses for me not to give it a go. I have really enjoyed the course and I have received*

*excellent marks so far and I have now graduated with a 2:1. UWTSO and especially Jean Williams have been fantastic support and I was diagnosed with Dyslexia and ADHD by college staff. Because of my diagnosis, I have been provided with equipment to help with my disability. After I graduate from the foundation degree, I feel that I am now capable to study for the full BA honours degree next year. My computer skills have increased and so has my confidence. With my new-found confidence, I decided it was also time to learn to drive. Launch and Monkton CP School helped and provided me with the revision disk and the computer room to study for the theory side of the test. I passed and this has given me more freedom and independence. I volunteered to be a mentor for people with drug and alcohol problems and I passed many courses as a support worker. I now also volunteer three days at Monkton School as a Teaching Assistant in order to help with my degree course. I have now applied to be a parent governor, as I feel confident enough to give my voice on behalf of all the parents here at Monkton School. My life has changed for the better and I would like to give special thanks to all at Launch and University of Wales Trinity St David for having the confidence in me and the belief that I can reach my full potential and literally change my life."*